



NEWS RELEASE

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

410 Willoughby, Suite 303
Post Office Box 111800
Juneau, Alaska 99811-1800

Phone: (907) 465-5009 Fax: (907) 465-5070

Contact: Chris Foley, Division of Water, (907) 465-5257

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEC extends public comment period for large passenger vessel wastewater discharge permit

April 27, 2007--The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Commercial Passenger Vessel Compliance Program has extended the public comment period for its proposed Large Commercial Passenger Vessel Wastewater Discharge General Permit to May 24, 2007. This general permit will satisfy the new permit requirement of the Cruise Ship ballot initiative that passed in August 2006.

The public comment period, which began April 11, 2007, was extended 14 days to allow for additional public review. It closes on May 24, 2007, at 5:00 PM.

The general permit will apply to wastewater discharges such as treated sewage, graywater, (such as wastewater from sinks and showers), and other wastewater from large commercial passenger vessels operating in state marine waters within Southeast, Southcentral, and other waters of the state. Large commercial vessels provide overnight accommodations for 250 passengers. Owners/operators must apply for coverage under the general permit and comply with all the conditions in the permit, including monitoring, recording, and reporting wastewater discharges.

The draft general permit can be reviewed on the DEC web site at www.dec.state.ak.us/water/cruise_ships/cpv_general_permit2.htm

Written comments must be addressed to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water, attn Chris Foley, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, P.O. Box 111800, Juneau, AK 99811-1800, or via email to Chris.Foley@dec.state.ak and must be received by 5:00 pm on May 24, 2007.

###